

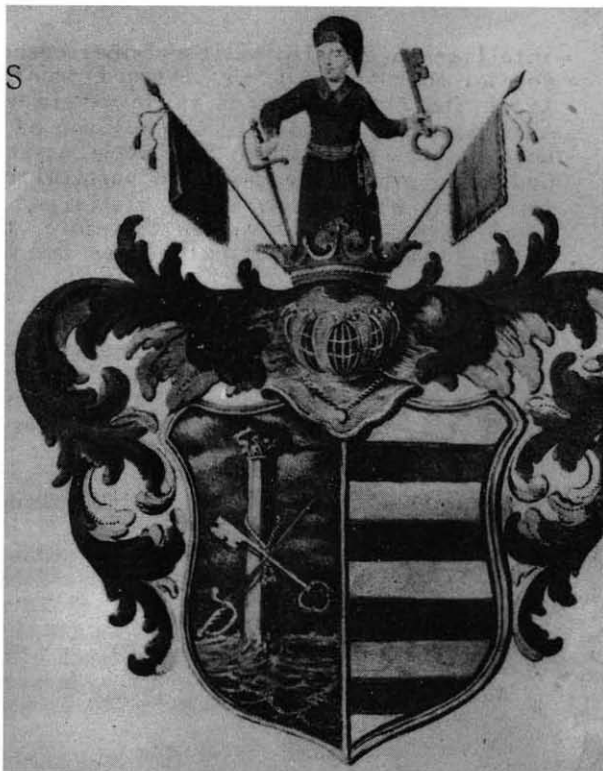
GRANT OF ARMS

Grant of Arms to S.T.,
(S.T. stands for the
Latin "Sine Titulo",
and means *Without
Title* (C. F. B. J.)
Mr. *Johann Friedrich
KIRST*, in Dutch
Service at the Promon-
tory of the Cape of
Good Hope, 1767.

I, August Lebrecht
Friebel, Delegate of
His Imperial Roman
Majesty and of the
Holy Roman Empire,
Count Palatine and
Aulic, Inspector
General of Excise at
Leipzig of the Elec-
torate of Saxony,
avow by these presents
and make known to
whom it may concern:
Inasmuch as I, among
several other high
Imperial favours,
privileges and pre-
rogatives, have most graciously been endowed and provided with

this Imperial privilege in that I have full power and authority to give and grant on behalf and in the name of His Imperial Roman Majesty and the Holy Roman Empire, to persons of probity and merit, whom I may esteem worthy of this, each in accordance with his condition and conduct, certain Arms and Jewels, with shield and Helm, and also to create and raise such persons, their legitimate heirs and successors, in perpetuity, to the dignity of Companions in Arms and of Fiefs, with all the honours, dignities, privileges, freedoms, prerogatives, rights and dues, as are more clearly and circumstantially set forth in my Imperial, Aulic and Palatine Letters patent dated Rudolstadt, the 15th February, 1764:

And whereas I have seen and remarked his virtue, good morals,



Arms of Mr. Johann Friedrich Kirst

intelligence and also military experience acquired and whereas now for some time S.T. Mr. *Johann Friedrich Kirst*, a German by birth, born at Eberstedt in Saxe-Weimar, but at present in Africa at the Promontory of the Cape of Good Hope, where he holds a high position in the Dutch Service and enjoys a happy God-given prosperity, has been particularly recommended to me by reason of these excellent qualities, by trustworthy persons who know and praise him; now therefore, taking into consideration these very excellent causes and merits, I have after

A photograph of the first page of the original Grant of Arms, issued to Mr. J.F. Kirst



mature consideration, good advice, and with a clear conscience, by virtue of the powers and authority vested in me, granted and accorded, on behalf and in the name of His Imperial Roman Majesty and the Holy Roman Empire, to the aforesaid meritorious *Johann Friedrich Kirst*, now living at the Promontory of the Cape of Good Hope, and to all his legitimate heirs and their heirs and successors, of both sexes, of this lineage, in the best form and manner, the hereinafter described Shield and Helm and appendant Jewels, as the everlasting Coat-of-arms of their family, and to make and raise each and all of them to Companions of Arms and of Fiefs.

The new Family Arms hereby conferred are composed as follows:

It consists of a Shield of a new form divided per pale (i. e. by a perpendicular line) in two equal parts. In the field on the right side there appears on the open sea in the free air under a blue sky, an immovable upright metal Column, in the middle of which a Sword and a Key crossed are attached, which are emblematical of proven staunchness in the storms and vicissitudes of life, and the means of seeking and finding happiness with wisdom along proper lines. The other field is gold with four red bands or stripes across it, which refers to a certain very old family badge, formerly used more particularly by one member of this Kirst family and incorporated in memory thereof. The shield is surmounted by a helm, with raised visor, covered by a gold properly formed crown. In the middle of this crown there stands, between a red and a blue flag, a man dressed in blue, who bears the same insignia which appear on the Column, namely in his dexter hand a Sword held downwards and in his sinister hand a Key pointing upwards, thus indicating again, with a few changes, both his courage shown on many occasions in former military service as also the wisdom which he has at all times shown to set about the right way to open the door to a true and lasting felicity.

Finally the mantling of the Helm which also drapes the two sides of the Shield, is of red shaded with gold. As may be seen in the Coat-of-arms, and Jewels, properly designed, limed and very clearly depicted at the beginning of these Letters Patent in their full size and in all their colours.

This I do and hereby accord, give and permit by virtue of the power and authority vested in me as Imperial Count Palatine and Aulic, and by virtue of these Letters Patent, Him, the said Mr. *Johann Friedrich Kirst* and all His legitimate issue and their heirs and successors of both sexes, to have, to bear, and to hold these family badges and arms, with shield and helm together with the appendant jewels, for ever and always and to use them on all occasions and in all honest and reasonable matters and company, against obloquy and affront, in storms, assaults, combats, fights, on banners, tents, ornaments, seals, stamps, jewels, at funerals and furthermore in all places and for all purposes, to their honour and for their requirements, as they like and see fit, and also to have every grace and freedom, honour and dignity, advantage, right and justice, with the appointments and advancements, spiritual and temporal, enjoyed by other Companions in Arms and of Fiefs of His Imperial Majesty and of the Holy Empire, and to be entitled to feudal rights and services, to judge and sentence and to have part in all this and be worthy of it, able and virtuous in spiritual

and temporal ranks and matters and to rejoice that they may use and enjoy all these things just as all other Companions in Arms of His Imperial Majesty and of the Holy Empire, Hereditary Kingdoms, principalities and countries have them and rejoice that they may use and enjoy them by right or custom without let or hindrance.

All this also with the commands and prohibitions as set forth and included in the Diploma of the Palatine Court, received by me, on pain of His Roman Imperial Majesty's and of the Holy Roman Empire's severe displeasure, and a penalty and punishment of 300 Mark fine gold, (one Mark is equal to 28 Rixdollars. C.F.B.J.) in which anyone who audaciously contravenes them in the manner prescribed will be mulcted at once.

The foregoin notwithstanding, others who bear the same Coat-of-arms and Jewels, which You properly desire to have, shall remain in possession of their Coats-of-arms with their rights unprejudiced and unimpaired.

In witness whereof I have personally signed this formal Grant of Arms with my name in my own hand and affixed thereto my ordinary seal of Palatinate Aulic.

(Was signed)

AUGUST JEBRECHT FRIEBEL

as

Comes Palatinus Caesareus
(Imperial Palatinate Minister).

(Translated and written from the German into Dutch, by C.F.B. Juritz, Cape Town, the 15th June, 1849).

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- (1) *Dr. C. Beyers: "Die Kaapse Patriotte"* (p. 21); refers to Jan F. Kirsten as a rich farmer and landowner.
This Jan F. Kirsten is the same person as Johann Friedrich Kirst.
 - (2) Translated into English by *Mr. H. van Tinteren* through the good offices of the Chief Archivist, *Dr. C. Beyers*.
 - (3) The original is in the possession of *Mrs. E.W. Rodda* (Pretoria) with whose kind permission we are able to reproduce the translated contents and the photographs of the original Grant of Arms.
(J.P.)